INFLUENCE OF MINORITY COMMUNITIES ON THE POLITICS OF MAHARASHTRA: SPECIAL REFERENCE TO MARATHWADA

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SYNOPSIS

A Synopsis of the proposed thesis to be submitted for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the Subject of Political Science faculty of Humanities

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Introduction:-

Since ancient times, various political and social movements have been taking place in India, some of which have succeeded and some of which have failed. But due to this movement, the concept of leadership was gaining ground in India and the efficiency of politicians was increasing and gaining extraordinary importance. Leadership skills determine the direction, scope, and nature of a movement and success is achieved by taking a concrete role to make any movement more capable. If a movement does not have a leader, it will be an ineffective movement. It is not possible for the ruling party in every nation to reach out to everyone to listen to the grievances of the people, so a representative or leader of each party is decided and through it the problems of the people are solved. E.g. MLAs and MPs are elected as the representatives of the people in the Legislative Assembly or parliament to solve the problems of the people in the constituency. Therefore, in order to be successful in political or social life, it is important for us to develop leadership qualities. Because that is what makes successful politicians or representatives.

India is a country with a large population and is run on a democratic basis, so becoming an efficient politician here is a complex process and it is also competitive. Also, due to the multi-party system, everyone is allowed to do politics for their convenience, so it is important that the leadership qualities be effective and efficient. Political leadership plays an important role in all these complex processes. Political leaders also carry out the process of political change by acquiring their leadership qualities, such as the socially liked values associated with them, the generally accepted character, the extensive knowledge and wisdom gained through learning and experience. Political leaders need to understand the needs and aspirations of the people and identify the needs of society. The success

or failure of a leader is determined by a number of situations in which even the lack of certain qualities can contribute greatly.

The greatest leader in Indian politics is Mahatma Gandhi. Under his leadership, India gained independence from the British, so Mahatma Gandhi's name is immortal in world politics. He started his political and social work from 1920 and till 1947 he was called the father of Indian politics. Through the Indian National Congress Party, he fought against the tyrannical and dictatorial British rule. Various Satyagrahas, agitations, movements had earned the trust of the people, so the majority of the people came together with a proclamation of Gandhiji and supported the Indian independence struggle. Due to this, the people definitely considered Mahatma Gandhi as an ideal politician and social reformer. In this way, there were other successful politicians with leadership qualities. Jawaharlal Nehru, Vallabhbhai Patel, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, Indira Gandhi, Atal Bihari Vajpayee and other leaders. This shows how important it is for you to have successful leadership qualities.

Maharashtra is one of the major states in India. It is inhabited by people of different castes and religions, of which Hindus are the majority and people of other religions are the minority. Major political parties include Congress, NCP, Shivsena, BJP, MNS, RPI, AIMIM, VBA, and others. If we look at the politics of Maharashtra from the point of view of the population, then naturally the majority religion seems to be in power. Leaders of the minority community have a place of respect among the major political parties here, so the leaders of the minority community have a good influence in the politics of Maharashtra. These include influential leaders like Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, A. R Antulay, George Fernandes, Dr. Rafiq Zakaria, Ramdas Athavale, Adv. Prakash Ambedkar, Husain Dalwai,Vijay Darda, and Nawab Malik. But the minority community still does not

get as much representation as it should in terms of population. Also, it is impossible for the leaders of the minority community here to win elections on their own, so they have not been able to achieve as much success as they should have. The present research has been undertaken to clarify the political influence of the minority community in Maharashtra.

Review of Literature:

Till today much work has been undertaken by scholars that highlight the political aspects of "Influence of Minority Communities on the Politics of Maharashtra: Special Reference to Marathwada" They have conducted extensive surveys and noted remarkable observation on the condition of the under various titles namely: Prema, Kurien. (2017) in her paper Majority Versus Minority Religious Status and Diasporic Nationalism: Indian American Advocacy Organizations, Nations and Nationalism, Matteo, Migheli. (2016) in Minority Religious Groups and Life Satisfaction in India, Mohd, Sanjeer Alam. (2016) in his article Affirmative Action for Minorities in India: Constraints and Possibilities, Abdul, Majid. (2015) in Indian Secularism and Religious Minorities in India, Rollin, F Tusalem. (2015) in Ethnic Minority Governments, Democracy, and Human Rights, Politics and Policy, Vaziram Zamindar. (2015), in South Asia in Dark Times: Homogenizing Nation-States and the Problem of Minorities says, Mayuri, Sengupta. (2014) in her paper State-Initiated Development and the Reang Ethnic Minority in Tripura (North East India), Mohammad, Allam. (2014) in his article Minority Institutions and the Question of Autonomy: A Case of Aligarh Muslim University, Mohammad, Mustafa B. (2013) in his article Debates on Minority Rights in India: Liberal Perspective, E, Sridharan. (2012) in his article, Why are Multi-Party Minority Governments Viable in India? Theory and Comparison, Vedpathak, Madhukar Ranchandra. (2012) in Constitutional

Provisions & Minorities in India. These are few scholars who have attempted to highlight the Influence o f Minority Communities on The Politics of Maharashtra: Special Reference to Marathwada.

Definitional analysis:

1) Politics:

The chancellor Bismarck told the German Reichstag politics is not a science but an art. In other words he believed that politics was the art of government. This classical interpretation of politics was evolved from the original meaning of the term in Ancient Greece. (Heywood, 1997).

The word politics comes from the Greek word polis, meaning everything that concerns or belongs to the polis, or city-state. Since the city-states no longer exist, the modern form of this definition is what concerns the state. Thus, politics can be defined as the study of the state, its aims and purposes the institutions by which those are going to be realized, its relations with its individual members and with other states. Politics is also defined as the study of the government a collection of officers who make, interpret and enforce rules for the whole community. This definition of politics offers a highly restricted view of politics. According to this definition politics takes place just within the government departments, cabinet rooms and legislative chambers. This means that politics is the matter of politicians, civil servants and lobbyists. According to this view the vast majority of the people are not involved in politics. All the institutions that are not engaged in running the country are regarded as non-political. (Heywood, 1997)

2) Maharashtra:

Maharashtra is a state in the western part of India. Maharashtra is the third largest state in India in terms of area and the second-largest in terms of population.

Maharashtra is one of the most developing states in India. Maharashtra is bordered by Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, Karnataka, Goa and Dadra, and Nagar Haveli. The state is bordered by the Arabian Sea to the west. Mumbai is the capital of Maharashtra with a population of about 11 crore. (Census, 2011).

About 1.8 crore people live in Mumbai. Nagpur is the vice capital of Maharashtra. The medieval Maharashtra Satvahana dynasty includes the Rashtrakuta dynasty, the Western Chalukyas, the Mughal and Maratha empires. It covers an area of 1,18,809 square miles (3,07,710 sq km) and is bordered by the Arabian Sea to the west and to the Indian states of Karnataka, Telangana, Goa, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Dadra and Nagar Haveli. Maharashtra is known as the progressive Maharashtra of Phule-Shahu-Ambedkar. Because Maharashtra has inherited the ideological legacy of these three social reformers & political philosopher. (https://mpscbook.com)

3) Minority Communities:

Minorities are generally those sects of people who are less in number and evidently stand distinct and unique from the majority. On accounts of their lesser strength, they tend to become more conscious about their rights and privileges and claims for constitutional rights and safeguards for their protection and upliftment. Louis Wirth opined that, "A minority is a group of people who because of their physical or cultural characteristics, are singled out from others in the society in which they live for differential and unequal treatment and who, therefore, regard themselves as objects of collective discrimination. Further, minority status carries with it an exclusion from full participation in the life of the society". Capotorti defined minority as, "A group numerically inferior to the rest of the population of a State, in a non- dominant position, whose members being nationals of the State

possess ethnic, religious or linguistic characteristic different from those of the rest of the population and show, if only implicitly, a sense of solidarity, directed towards preserving their culture, traditions, religion and language." (Thomas, 2017).

As per the notification of the Government of India, six minority communities namely Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Buddhists, Parsis and Jains have been notified.

Maharashtra Population by Religion:

Hindu is the largest religion in Maharashtra religion wise population with 79.83% of 89 million population, followed by Muslim with 11.54% of 12.9 million, 5.81% with Buddhism of 6.5 million and other 2.82% is shared by other religions like Christianity(0.96%), Sikhism(0.2%) and Jainism(1.25%). The total Muslim population is 12.9 Million is the second largest after Hindu 89.7 Million, followed by Buddhist Jains of 1.4 Millions, Christians of 1 Million, and Sikhs with 223,247 and 6.5 Millions. Total minority population of Maharashtra is 20.17%

Table No. 1

Maharashtra Population by Religion

Religion	Persons	Percentage	Males	Females
Hindu	8,97,03,057	79.83	4,65,35,862	4,31,67,195
Muslim	1,29,71,152	11.54	67,89,127	61,82,025
Christian	10,80,073	0.96	5,31,916	5,48,157
Sikh	2,23,247	0.2	1,18,058	1,05,189
Buddhist	65,31,200	5.81	33,14,906	32,16,294
Jain	14,00,349	1.25	7,13,157	6,87,192
Others	1,78,965	0.16	89,823	89,142
Not Stated	2,86,290	0.25	1,50,207	1,36,083

Source: Censes Report of India, 2011.

Table No. 2

Religion wise Literacy Rate in India

Sr. No.	Religion	Literacy Rate
1	Hindu	73.30%
2	Muslim	68.50%
3	Christian	84.50%
4	Sikh	75.40%
5	Buddhist	81.30%
6	Jain	94.90%
7	Others	--

Source: Censes Report of India, 2011.

According to the religion wise literacy rate of India censes of 2011, Hindu-73.30%, Muslim- 68.50%, Christian-84.50%, Sikh-75.40, Buddhist-81.30%, Jain-94.90% respectively.

Major Political Parties in Maharashtra:

Table No. 3

Political Parties in Maharashtra

Sr. No.	Parties	Sr. No.	Parties
1	Bharatiya Janata Party	9	Communist Party of India (Marxist)
2	Shiv Sena	10	Maharashtra Navnirman Sena
3	Nationalist Congress Party	11	Peasants and Workers Party of India
4	Indian National Congress	12	Swabhimani Paksha
5	Bahujan Vikas Aghadi	13	Jan Surajya Shakti
6	All India Majlis-E-Ittehadul Muslimeen	14	Krantikari Shetkari Party
7	Samajwadi Party	15	Rashtriya Samaj Paksha
8	Prahar Janshakti Party	16	Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi

Source: Election Commission of India.

Among these parties, Shiv Sena, BJP, Congress, and NCP have always been established as the ruling party or the opposition, while other parties are struggling even more to get into the mainstream of power.

Influence of Maharashtra's minority community in politics:

In the politics of Maharashtra, the leadership of the minority community is scattered in every party, so the independent minority party has not received a successful response. Therefore, the leaders of the minority community in Maharashtra consider themselves blessed to work in the majority party. It includes Muslims, Buddhists, Sikhs and Jains. Parties formed by minority community leaders in Maharashtra mainly include RPI, AIMIM, Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi, and other similar parties. The minority community in Maharashtra has the power to change the political equations of 80 Assembly constituencies and 17 Lok Sabha constituencies. Therefore, the minority community has more influence in the politics of Maharashtra.

Significance of the Study:-

The population of the minority community in Maharashtra is about 21% of the total population. But they are not represented in politics as compared to the population. A group with 21% of the population can change the political equations of Maharashtra and make a significant contribution to the development of the state. So we can make an impact on the majority of the electorate as well as develop our community. Therefore, this research can be important.

Statement of problems:

"Influence of Minority Communities on the Politics of Maharashtra: Special Reference to Marathwada"

Selection of subject:

So far a lot of research has been done on different groups but little research has been done on minority groups in India and especially in Maharashtra. Minority groups in Maharashtra have not been able to contribute much in the political arena. This research has been carried out to find out the reasons for this. Also, if the minority community gets proper representation in the politics of Maharashtra, they can definitely be effective and make a significant contribution to the development of the state and the country.

Scope and Limitation:-

The current study will be limited to Legislative Assembly, Legislative Council and Lok Sabha constituencies under the influence of minority communities in Marathwada, of which major constituencies will be selected for research work. Only election statistics will be included from 2011 to 2020.

Objectives of the Research study:

Following objectives are determined for present research.

1. To study the religion wise population of Maharashtra.
2. To study the minority communities in Maharashtra.
3. Finding out the proportion of minority representation among the major political parties in Maharashtra.
4. To study the influence of minority community leaders and voters in Maharashtra politics.

Hypothesis of Research:

In course of research bellow hypothesis shall be tested for its validity.

1. The minority community in Maharashtra has a large Muslim and Buddhist population.
2. In the politics of Maharashtra, the votes of the minority communities are crucial.
3. In Maharashtra, the minority community has less political representation than the population..
4. The Influence of the minority communities can be seen in the politics of Maharashtra.

Research Methodology:

The research is based on historical, descriptive, analytical methods and to some extent empirical methods. Research is based on primary and secondary sources of data.

Primary Data:

Interviews or surveys will be conducted through structured questionnaire based on direct sampling method of electorate in certain Vidhan Sabhas, Legislative Councils and Lok Sabha constituencies under the influence of minority community in Marathwada..

Secondary Data:

At some occasion secondary sources will be considered. This includes statistical techniques: an Average, percentage-projected technique, standard deviation, correlation co-efficient, graphs, government reports, published books, news paper, websites, and etc conclusions will be proposed by using micro-study method.

Chapter Scheme:

Chapter-1

Introduction.

Chapter-2

Review of Literatures.

Chapter-3

Influence of Minority Communities in Maharashtra Politics.

Chapter-4

Data Collection & Interpretation.

Chapter-5

Conclusion & Suggestion.

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E-Sources:

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